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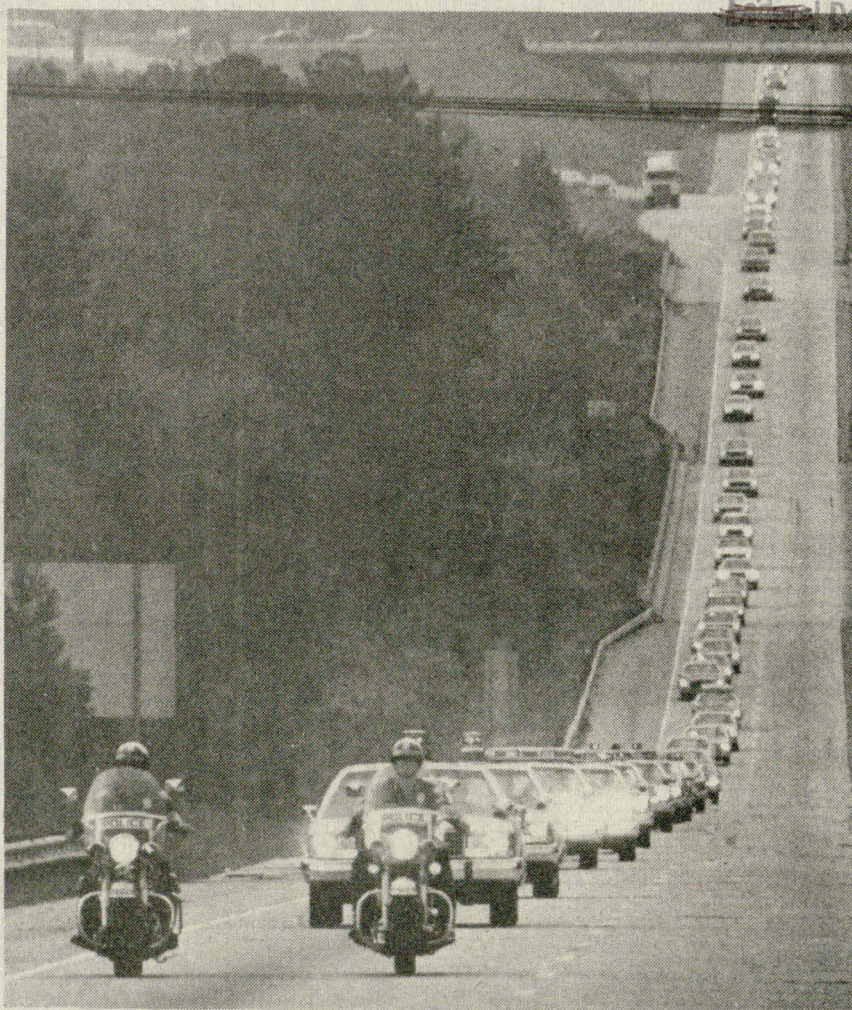
Criminal Justice Chronicle

The Newspaper of the South Carolina
Criminal Justice Academy

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A CROWDED CHURCH was one testimony to the friends and professional associations SLED Capt. J. Leon Gasque garnered in his lifetime, but another was afforded by a Lexington County hill, which underscored the length of cortege that followed Gasque to his grave in Woodbridge Memorial Park. The 37-year veteran of SLED died in September of an apparent heart attack. (Photo by Todd Houston, courtesy of *The State*).

Criminal Justice Chronicle

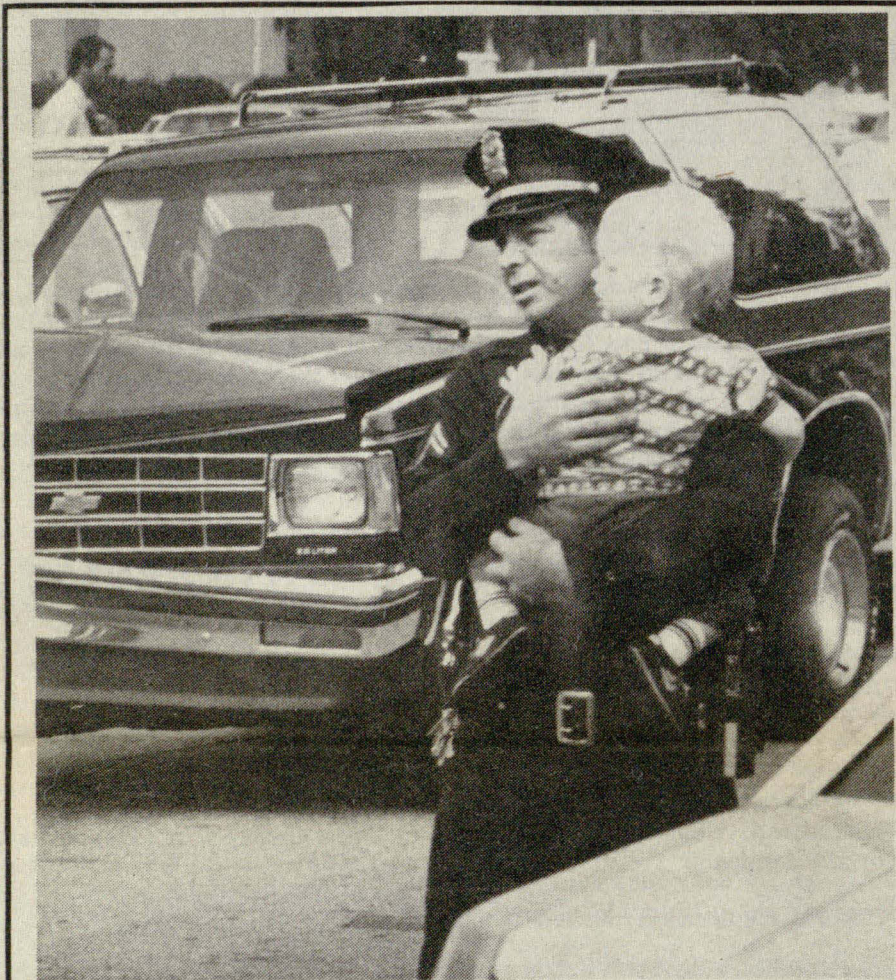
The Newspaper of The South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy

Columbia, South Carolina

Nov./Dec., 1986

Vol. 1, Number 5

AG's Ruling Would Affect Police Media Relationships



COLUMBIA POLICE CPL. J.L. BROWN holds a child whose mother had led police on a wild chase through Columbia streets, damaging her own car, a parked car, and a police cruiser in the process. The little boy was not hurt, but his mother, Myra Ann Daniels, 28, of West Columbia, was slightly injured and received treatment at Richland Memorial Hospital. The incident, which occurred in November, stemmed from Ms. Daniels' failure to appear in court in Lexington County and her subsequent flight when officers attempted to stop her. (Photo by Jeff Amberg, courtesy of *The State*)

S.C. Attorney General Travis Medlock has issued an opinion which could have a far-reaching impact on protecting law enforcement investigative reports from public inspection.

The opinion concluded that the Freedom of Information Act legally permits SLED to refrain from disclosing criminal investigatory reports if SLED concludes upon examination that "the public interest would be served by not disclosing the material."

The opinion was issued Sept. 22, at the request of SLED Chief J.P. Strom who questioned whether the public was entitled to view criminal investigatory reports under the S.C. Freedom of Information Act.

The Attorney General's findings deal specifically with SLED investigative reports, but some police officials believe the opinion would apply to all police and sheriff's departments statewide.

"There is ample case authority which concludes with respect to the records pertaining to criminal investigations, that nondisclosure is in the public interest and is thus legally authorized," said Donald J. Zelenka, Chief Deputy Attorney General, who authored the

opinion for Medlock.

The opinion held that such a decision to withhold the information from public disclosure must be based upon evaluation of the particular document or material, and it pointed out that the decision is subject to judicial scrutiny.

The opinion outlined the basis for the Attorney General's conclusion, stating that South Carolina has a very real interest in protecting the relative confidentiality of the information its agents gather, analyze and record during their investigations of criminal activity and crimes.

The opinion cited a well-recognized distinction between records pertaining to a criminal investigation and other types of records.

"One reason is the need in combatting crime to encourage persons to provide important leads to law enforcement officers," the opinion stated.

The Attorney General's opinion, quoting a previous court ruling in the matter in Iowa, stated: "Under ordinary circumstances the investigation starts on a broad scale and gradually narrows

(See RULING, Page 3)

VIP Security: Strictly A Teamwork Job

By Lt. BEN F. THOMAS

The demand for VIP protection in South Carolina has increased dramatically during the past five years. The Criminal Justice Academy has sponsored several seminars on the subject and is contemplating additional programs to help law enforcement deal with the problem. The following article was written by SLED Lt. Ben F. Thomas who helped plan and conduct security operations for the recently-held National Governors Conference at Hilton Head. Lt. Thomas was asked to write about the planning and to recommend ways to improve security should your agency be faced with similar responsibilities.

Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles — all of these cities have one very important thing in common: high-profile VIP's and dignitaries, or what we in law enforcement refer to as "protectors." These cities also have a healthy

concern about terrorism, domestic and foreign, because of security risks.

South Carolina recently has become a similarly high-profile site. Presidents, vice presidents and foreign dignitaries have become commonplace in our state. Our leaders in government and education have made us an integral part of world affairs.

A "team concept" is the best way to describe South Carolina's approach to the major security problems created by visits from protectees. We, of course, do not have a state police system, so each jurisdiction shares equally in the mission. As in any multifaceted endeavor there must be a command structure with a coordinating point, but not a boss. Coordination is the key.

If the protectee is under federal jurisdiction, the coordinating point is the federal agency with primary jurisdiction — U.S. Secret Service, U.S. State Department, Federal Bureau of In-

vestigation, or U.S. Marshal Service.

Manpower constraints, economics and good research cause these agencies to rely heavily on South Carolina state and local authorities for assistance in the protection of their dignitaries when they're protecting dignitaries here.

The U.S. Secret Service has provided many training seminars on protection for the various departments throughout South Carolina, based on past experience, including unpleasant incidents.

Even with its vast resources, the federal government realizes the need to utilize state and local forces, so the coordination of multijurisdictional forces is initiated. The duties and responsibilities are simplified when a federal agency has the lead role.

But South Carolina is drawing a major amount of dignitaries that don't fall under federal protection.

Between our educational institutions, government leaders and resort/conven-

tion areas, South Carolina law enforcement officials work some type of dignitary protection almost monthly. Most of these cases are the sole responsibility of state and local law enforcement authorities.

How does a state like ours approach (See VIP's, Page 3)

CORRECTION

Because of a typographical error, the *Chronicle* reported in its September edition that Sheriff James Gable of McCormick County was accused of embezzling "U.S. Treasury checks worth over \$40,000."

The actual amount was approximately \$4,000. The *Chronicle* regrets the printer's error.

Gable was convicted and sentenced to serve six months in a federal prison. See story within.

Director's Thoughts

Edition Looks
At A Number
Of Big Topics

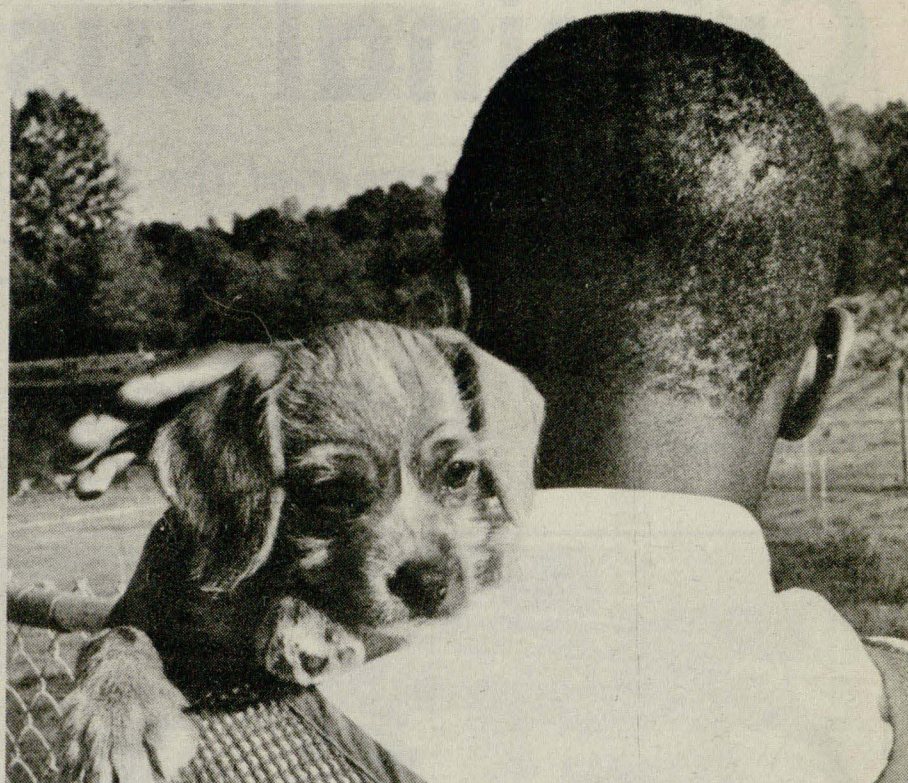
This issue of The Criminal Justice Chronicle explores a variety of topics affecting law enforcement, both here at the academy and at other locations around the state.

We particularly are interested in a recent task analysis performed at the academy into the level of training and subject matter available to officers in the basic classes during 1985. There were some genuine surprises that surfaced after we survey hundreds of officers, and a look at the preliminary results is available in this issue.

Lt. Ben Thomas of SLED was asked to write an article on the role of law enforcement agencies in dealing with high profile security operations. South Carolina recently has stepped into the spotlight with the visits of numerous dignitaries—a matter that has become a major security problem in this “anti-terrorism” era.

I appreciate the response to our publication and for the many suggestions for articles. Our staff is working on some interesting ideas for future editions, and I hope you will continue to keep us advised of developments at the various agencies around the state.

—JOHN O'LEARY



PET THERAPY has done wonders for elderly residents of nursing homes, patients in mental hospitals, and children in hospitals. The S.C. Department of Youth Services is trying it now for children placed in their care by the courts because of behavior problems. The pets are provided by the Animal Protection League, which seeks homes for unwanted animals and strays. Pet therapy is based on the idea that people think better of themselves when they love and care for an animal. (Photo by Doug Gilmore, courtesy of *The State*)

10-90? 10-94! Your Answer Column

Q. Are any of the Academy Film Library's training films available on tape?

Yes. In fact, the Academy has recently purchased 29 of the most requested titles in ½-inch VHS format. These are available immediately for loan on the same basis as the films.

Q. Does the Academy presently offer a “Defensive Tactics Instructor” certification?

A. Not presently. However, we do plan to implement this certification in the very near future.

Q. I am a certified law enforcement officer in another state. Can you tell me what additional training will be required in order to become certified in South Carolina?

A. It is impossible to give you an answer without a review of your previous training. Specific requests should be directed to Lennie Hicks, Director of Basic Training, for a case by case review. It is possible that S.C. Law and handgun requalification would be all that is necessary for S.C. certification.

Q. If I change departments, can I transfer my “Instructor Certification” to my new department?

A. Yes—however, a letter of request for transfer must be sent to Bruce Carter, Director of Standards and Instructor Certification, here at the Academy.

Q. As a departmental training officer, I worry about the possibility of a law suit originating with training activities. Does the Academy provide any assistance or services designed to evaluate departmental training?

A. Yes. The Standards and Instructor Certification Division has a “Departmental Training Assistance Program.”

Telephone Bruce Carter at the Academy. His number is 737-8400.

Q. Can a “reserve officer” attend any instructor development courses offered by the Academy?

A. No. Certification standards require

that all instructor candidates be full time, paid, city, county, or state agency law enforcement officers.

This column will be a regular feature in *Criminal Justice Chronicle*. If you would like to submit a question, call Don Titus in Columbia at 737-8400.

Attorney General's Column

Enforcement Conference Successful

By Travis Medlock
Attorney General

One of the most impressive characteristics of South Carolina's law enforcement community is its dedication to professional growth and development. That fact is evident every year at the Attorney General's Law Enforcement Conference.

The Conference was developed by Criminal Justice Academy Executive Director John O'Leary and me as a joint project. We decided to co-sponsor a conference for law enforcement leaders that would be of practical assistance in the day-to-day operation of their departments. The first meeting, in 1984, drew 160 police chiefs, sheriffs, Highway Patrol, and SLED leaders, and prosecutors. After a second successful conference in 1985, we decided to make the conference an annual event.

This year's conference, held in September, drew well over 200 top law enforcement leaders. The involvement of John O'Leary and staff members such as Billy Gibson and Janet Miller was essential to the success of the conference.

Again this year the emphasis was placed on practical information. Assistant Attorneys General B.J. Willoughby and Casey Manning presided over the conference, presenting 10 speakers who

discussed such topics as the impact of new legislation, Attorney General's opinions and court decisions. Assistant Attorney General William “Buddy” Ready, who coordinated the conference, recruited speakers who were known for both their expertise and hands-on experience.

Assistant Academy Director Jim Kirby discussed United States Supreme Court decisions. Assistant Attorney

General Harold Coombs discussed state appellate court decisions. Deputy Attorney General Bob Cook and Assistant Attorney General Charles Richardson of our Opinion Section reviewed recent major law enforcement opinions our Office has issued. Assistant Solicitor Peter Them from Summerville discussed a topic very much on the public's mind, child abuse and neglect.

Deputy Attorney General Ed Evans explained the amendments to South Carolina's drug forfeiture statutes which were passed this year. Improvements such as the reduction of the amount of narcotics necessary to trigger forfeiture should make the process more workable from the standpoint of law enforcement.

Perhaps the most talked-about legislation of the past year, the Omnibus Crime Act, was presented by David Belding of the Governor's Office. An overview of 1986 law-enforcement related legislation were presented by Flynn Harrell of our Office.

Fifth Circuit Solicitor James Anders of Columbia served as luncheon speaker. Solicitor Anders discussed innovations and special programs of his Office directed toward victims of crime, first-time offenders and students in the schools.



TRAVIS MEDLOCK

VIP's Security

(Continued from Page One)

the mission of protection and yet continue with daily duties?

Many years ago, the Governor of S.C. set up a coordination point for the state law enforcement agencies in the event of a disaster. That plan called for SLED, the South Carolina Highway Patrol, South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources and Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission to combine forces to assist local authorities when they needed it.

Under this idea of mass manpower, the need for coordination became evident and that role was assigned to SLED. Each of these agencies plays a vital role, and SLED acts as the clearinghouse for the needs of the projected mission. This idea has been effectively used in everything from disasters to crowd control and dignitary protection.

The Highway Patrol and SLED traditionally have been involved with the protection of the state's Governor and First Family. As the various governors began to entertain and meet with national leaders both at the State House and the Mansion, the agencies played a larger role in dignitary protection.

South Carolina has been host to several Southern Governors' Conferences, legislative conferences, a national Democratic Conference, trade conferences, the New Governors' Seminar and a Caribbean Conference. Many of these have been the responsibility of state enforcement agencies. Now, however, there seem to be yearly visits from the President or Vice President. It also has been projected that in the near future, we will have a visit from Dr. Billy Graham and the Pope.

Recently, Governor Riley hosted the prestigious National Governors Conference on Hilton Head Island. This put the wheels in motion for a coordinated effort between the South Carolina Highway Patrol, South Carolina Department of Wildlife and Marine Resources, the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, SLED and the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office -- to prepare for the New Governors' Seminar. Lt. Ben F. Thomas III of SLED was assigned to be the advance agent for the security planning.

Planning for security at the 1986 National Governors Conference began early in 1984. Arrangements were made for members of Governor Riley's staff and Lt. Thomas to attend the 1985 Summer Meeting of the NGA as observers in Boise, Idaho.

That fall, after being briefed by Lt. Thomas, Capt. J. Leon Gasque of SLED talked with the other agency heads and then with Sheriff Morgan McCutcheon of Beaufort County. It was determined then that SLED's Special Operations would work full-time on this project.

District Wildlife Captain Ed McTeer and Highway Patrol Sergeant McCarthy as well as the Sheriff would be kept abreast of all planning sessions.

First, a command staff had to be selected and their exact responsibility determined. Next, a time prospectus and planning calendar had to be developed.

The command structure was not difficult. The inner perimeter or plain clothes would be SLED's and ABC's responsibility. The outer perimeter and all water activities were Wildlife's

responsibility. And transportation/traffic was the direct responsibility of the Highway Patrol. Each agency set up its own command structure.

In planning for security, the planner must be familiar with the events, their locations and building facilities. A security plan must be written for each location, event and facility. Other factors include:

-- Manpower allocations: How many personnel are required to secure a location and the amount of time needed?

-- Post assignments: Location, duties and length of shift.

-- Restricted areas: Access control to inner and outer perimeters.

-- Identification and credentials: How will participants be identified for access to the events?

-- Emergency equipment locations: Fire alarms and suppression equipment such as sprinklers, taped messages and alarm heads.

-- Evacuation plan: How will the area be evacuated? What provisions will be made for security and transportation of dignitaries and for their shelter?

-- Emergency medical plans: What resources and equipment are needed?

-- Parking: What provisions for vehicle parking have been made? How will security be extended to these areas?

-- Incident contingencies: What procedures will be followed if a demonstration or other disturbances take place? Who makes the arrest, what are possible charges, and are magistrates available? Is a counter assault team needed?

-- Special security precautions: Will meeting areas be "swept" to check for explosives or other threats? Is a bomb dog available?

-- Transportation and logistics: How will the dignitaries, staff and luggage be transported?

-- Press: What type of credentials will be required for reporters and cameramen, and to what areas will they have access?

-- Communications: This is the heartbeat of the entire operation, and if it

doesn't work, then neither will the plan. What radios, telephones, pagers and computer terminals will be used? with multi-agency operators and no common radio frequency, what serious problems can arise?

For the National Governors Conference, a review of the agenda, which often changed indicated the need for several types of security, including multi-day security locations for meetings, residential security, and recreational and social events security.

These included the Savannah and Hilton Head Airports, where the Governors would arrive, the Marriott Hotel, the Mariner's Inn Hotel and the Hyatt-Regency Hotel -- where the governors would either be lodged or attending meetings.

Ruling

(Continued from Page One)

itself as the officers zero in on prime suspects. There is much in the investigating officer's report which is his unsupported theory and much which is hearsay and rumor. Furthermore, the reports are frequently based on material--or tips--from informers, who may be despised by friend and foe alike but who are nevertheless sometimes indispensable to successful police work. A routine disclosure of their identity would instantaneously eliminate that necessary source of information."

In addition to preventing a chilling effect on potential witnesses and informers, the opinion cited a second reason for preserving the confidentiality of records pertaining to a criminal investigation. The nondisclosure of investigative reports would help allow fellow officers privately and confidentially to discuss and record their findings and theories about each case which is under investigation.

"A third fundamental reason for con-

The Highway Patrol coordinated transportation security by assigning each governor a full time security officer who remained with him from arrival to departure. Troopers also maintained traffic flow when necessary, as well as a motor pool for special guests. Special license tags were issued for the principal patrol cars, and window stickers which coded each vehicle.

Wildlife Officers were used to secure the outer perimeter of the resident hotels, the ocean-front area in front of each hotel and VIP parking areas. They also provided security for any water-related recreational activities. The agenda called for a boat trip involving three vessels for approximately two hours. This was treated as a motorcade with

(See VIP's, Page 4)

confidentiality with regard to records pertaining to criminal investigations is the protection of the various privacy interests involved," the opinion noted.

It is well established that the release of information with respect to the investigation of possible criminal offenses, where the individual investigated is not indicted or prosecuted, seriously affects the private interest of these individuals, the Attorney General's Office stated.

"In short, courts and legislatures have consistently recognized that where a criminal investigation is concerned, there is the necessity to afford broader privacy rights to those being investigated as well as witnesses and investigators," the Attorney General's opinion stated.

The opinion dealt only with the release of SLED's investigative reports and files. It pointed out that state law requires that some documents be made available for public inspection, such as police incident reports. The opinion did not affect that portion of the Freedom of Information Act.

McCormick Citizens Will Try To Elect Somebody Sheriff

McCormick County citizens will go to the polls Dec. 30 for a primary and Feb. 17, 1987, for a special election to name a new sheriff.

But that election is already fraught with controversy.

County Coroner Jack Keown, appointed by Gov. Dick Riley to serve as acting sheriff, has been charged with bribing an opponent to pull out of the race. Riley subsequently appointed yet another acting sheriff, Huey L. "Buck" Cockrell, resident Newberry County agent for the state Law Enforcement Division.

Keown apparently was to remain in the sheriff's race pending grand jury action and disposition of the alleged bribery claims, and he has not been stripped of his duties as coroner.

His opponents in the upcoming election are Don Neal, a retired criminal investigator from Florida, and Deputy



JIMMY GABLE

George Reid, the candidate Keown is accused of bribing.

Former McCormick County Sheriff James Gable is scheduled to report to federal prison by Jan. 5 to begin a six-month sentence for embezzling county money.

Gable was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Aiken on Nov. 22, a little more than a month after a federal jury found him guilty of embezzling U.S. Treasury checks totaling \$4,043.

The checks were written to McCormick County by the U.S. Corps of Engineers for law enforcement services to parts of the Clark Hill Lake area that were under the corps' jurisdiction.

Gable received the six-year sentence for one count of the original indictment against him. On the second count, he was sentenced to three years, suspended on service of five years probation. Maximum possible sentence was 10 years and/or a \$10,000 fine on each count.

Arresting Officers' Immunity Limited, Qualified By Court

By William C. Smith
SCCJA Legal Staff

The issue of civil liability is one which looms dark and foreboding in the daily lives of law enforcement officers across the United States.

In conjunction with the ever apparent threat of being sued for alleged misconduct or negligence in the performance of duty there lingers a constant question of what protection is available to the individual officer. More specifically, what immunity does an officer retain for his or her acts in the duty setting?

On March 5, 1986, the United States Supreme Court, in the case of *Malley v. Briggs*, addressed the limited issue of immunity for officers in arrest warrant applications. The answer, albeit clear, is not a favorable one for law enforcement.

The factual setting of the case is as follows:

Rhode Island State Police conducted a court-authorized wiretap of the telephone of Paul Driscoll. During the course of monitoring Driscoll's telephone, the State Police intercepted telephone call which indicated that a party had occurred at the Briggs' residence. From these calls, State Trooper Edward Malley concluded that Driscoll and the Respondents, James and Louisa Briggs, conspired to possess marijuana. Malley drew up felony complaints based on his conclusion and presented them to a State District Court judge who issued warrants for the arrest of Driscoll, the Briggs, and others.

Ultimately, the Rhode Island Grand Jury refused to return an indictment, and the charges were dropped. But as a result of the warrants, Driscoll and the Briggs had been arrested at their residences and taken to a local police department, where they were booked and placed in detention pending arraignment and release. As well, local and statewide newspapers published the fact

that they had been arrested for drug possession.

The Briggs' filed suit against Trooper Malley alleging that he violated their constitutional rights under the Fourth and Fourteenth amendments by apply-



BILL SMITH

ing for warrants for their arrest. Trooper Malley filed a motion for a directed verdict at the conclusion of the Briggs' case in District Court. His motion was granted. The court found that no liability should be assessed against Malley because an officer submitting facts in an affidavit which he or she believes to be true, to a neutral and detached magistrate, should be entitled to immunity.

But the Court of Appeals disagreed and reversed the District Court. The Court of Appeals held that "an officer who seeks an arrest warrant by submitting a complaint and supporting affidavit to a judge is not entitled to immunity unless the officer has an *objectively reasonable* basis for believing that the facts alleged in his affidavit are sufficient to establish probable cause."

On review, the U.S. Supreme Court

affirmed the ruling of the Court of Appeals. Malley had argued that he should have *absolute immunity*, the same as that of a complaining witness who signs a warrant. The High Court replied that complaining witnesses *do not* have absolute immunity.

Malley argued further that his position was similar to that of a prosecutor who asks the grand jury to return an indictment--and prosecutors have absolute immunity. The Court replied that the central role of the prosecutor dictates absolute immunity, because any lesser immunity would impair the performance of a central actor in the judicial process.

But the Court's interpretation of *qualified immunity* still renders protection to any conscientious officer who has an objectively reasonable purpose behind his application for a warrant.

"Only where the warrant application is so lacking in indicia of probable cause as to render official belief in its existence unreasonable will the shield of immunity be lost," the justices said.

And the test for objective reasonableness, the Court said, "is whether a reasonably well-trained officer ... would have known that his affidavit failed to establish probable cause that he should not have applied for the warrant."

In short, an officer is entitled to qualified immunity from liability for his or her actions in applying for an arrest warrant. The qualified immunity is available to an officer whose application for the warrant is based on "objective reasonableness." If, however, the officer's belief as to the probable cause for the warrant is not objectively reasonable, qualified immunity is not available and the officer may be held civilly liable for his or her actions.

'Big City' Narcotics Are Here

Continually mounting evidence indicates that crack and other "big-city" drugs are taking hold in South Carolina, even in smaller towns that never had serious drug problems before.

Estill Police Chief Luther Bellinger says his small Hampton County town is an example of the growing drug problem, and "if it keeps on, it's going to be New York City in Estill."

And Hampton County Sheriff Rudy Loadholt agrees that crack use is a growing, and serious, concern for local residents: "The people in the county are real tense about it," he said. "And I'm doing everything in my power to stop it. I don't want no drugs in Hampton County."

The local authorities base their assertions on increased reports from citizens, on increased fights attributed to cocaine and crack highs, and on an August apartment raid that turned up a "crack house" operation.

In other recent drug developments around the state:

In late October, Lancaster County authorities arrested more than 30 people suspected of illegal drug transactions, and Richland County authorities made several arrests in connection with a "crack lab" and heroin and marijuana sales.

Meanwhile, state and federal officials have announced a joint effort to raise \$1 million during the next year to fight drug abuse in South Carolina.

U.S. Attorney Vinton D. Lide and William McCord, director of the S.C. Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, announced formation of the Palmetto Partnership, a non-profit foundation that will work on innovative programs to battle drug abuse.

They said one of the key targets will be cocaine usage.

VIP's

(Continued from Page 3)

lead boats and tail, and escort boats as prescribed in planning for a land-based motorcade.

ABC agents were attached to SLED for the purpose of augmenting inner perimeter security. Their primary duties were residence security within the hotels. SLED agents were joined with ABC personnel in this responsibility, supervised by the Chief of Enforcement for ABC, Joe Dorton.

SLED coordinated all efforts. Its primary duty was inner-perimeter security, including meeting rooms, etc.

The second kind of security detail was for the social and entertainment opportunities provided for the governors. Among the events were a Low Country lawn party at the plantation home of Mr. and Mrs. John Trask of Frogmore, a general reception for conference participants at the Marriott Hotel, a formal dinner at the Overlook Restaurant at Port Royal Plantation, and an outdoor dinner with a show by the group, "Alabama," as well as fund-raisers for both the Republican and Democratic parties. All of these events required an individual security plan and staffing.

This again was accomplished with a core of officers from the four agencies, working jointly and augmented with additional manpower from some of the other shifts.

An integral part of our efforts was participation by outside resources — agencies that are not usually assigned to protective duties.

Since emergency ordnance and technical service is always a concern in dignitary protection, assistance was provided to us by U.S. Army units from Ft. Jackson, S.C., and Ft. Stewart, Ga. The Arson Control Team of the State Fire Marshal's Office and members of SLED made up the teams for explosive sweeps.

The U.S. Marshal's office gave us technical service with officers for audio sweeps and the ability for magnetometers -- if they were needed.

Emergency response was considered to be a multi-faceted operation. It included Emergency Medical Service Disaster Preparedness and Counter Assault (CAT) teams. These areas were staffed by support from the SCARNG, SCHP and SLED.

The S.C. Aeronautics Commission played a key role in the area of transportation security. Bell Helicopter and

Sikorski Helicopter corporations donated executive level choppers for moving the dignitaries from the Savannah Airport to Hilton Head Island. This contribution was coordinated through the Aeronautics Commission and the SCHP with Governor Riley's staff.

We established a local liaison officer who helped coordinate other support from the Beaufort County Emergency Preparedness Office, Hilton Head-Sea Pines Fire, Lady's Island Fire Service, Beaufort County EMS and Hilton Head Rescue Squad. Additional types of details that were needed were spouse/children details and a recreational detail, both of which were composed of male and female officers from SCHP, SCWMR, ABC, and SLED.

ABC and SLED worked directly with officers from the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office on intelligence and incident control, including investigation of threats. The two agencies were also responsible for approximately 2,000 background security checks and the badging of hotel employees, caterers and other service types of personnel involved in the meeting.

The command post is the most pivotal part of an operation of this type. A

three-room grand suite in the Hyatt Hotel was the site of the radio room, Emergency Medical Service office and identification office. Motorola Co., Inc. loaned the state some high-band radios and repeaters so that the command system would function successfully. Radios were located in this suite for the SCHP, SCWMR, Beaufort County Sheriff's office, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy.

Computers from Sperry-Univac, as well as terminals for NCIC, were used to keep track of the governors' itineraries and meeting schedules. They also were used to keep track of agency personnel, their duty schedule and lodging information. Each position was set up with a multi-line telephone complete with headset capability, and it also had full time telephone operators from SLED at the main switchboard.

On many occasions, SLED was supervised by ABC, and ABC by SLED. The same was true for Wildlife. Everyone followed the Highway Patrol on traffic matters.

Obituaries: Requiescant In Pace

SLED's Capt. Gasque: Gone But Never To Be Forgotten

The State Law Enforcement Division has rebounded from the surprise death of its second-in-command, Capt. J. Leon Gasque, but hasn't yet named a successor.

Gasque died in September of an apparent heart attack. He was a law enforcement legend at 54, a 37-year veteran of SLED and their heir apparent to Chief J.P. Strom.

A third-generation law enforcement officer, Gasque was son of the late Marion County Sheriff J. Leon Gasque.

He joined SLED in 1950, working as a night desk clerk while attending the University of South Carolina. Except for a 3½-year tour with the U.S. Air Force after his college graduation in 1954, Gasque spend his entire career with the state's top law enforcement agency.

He was commissioned as a state law enforcement officer in 1953 and worked his way up through the ranks until he was appointed assistant director of SLED by Strom in 1964.

Gasque was a graduate of the FBI National Academy and a past president of the S.C. Law Enforcement Officers Association. He lectured on law enforcement at the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy and at colleges and universities nationwide.

In addition to administrative duties at SLED, Gasque headed its SWAT team and took an active role in investigations, specializing in arson cases and white-collar crime.

One of the highlights of his career was a two-year investigation of election fraud in the 1980 Dillon County Democratic primary. State Sen. Eugene Carmichael and 29 others were subsequently convicted of violating state and federal voting laws.

Gasque also directed a 1985 investigation into illegal distribution of prescription drugs to athletes at Clemson University that led to the resignation and conviction of three coaches.

Gasque also took a lead role in the intense manhunt for the kidnapper and killer of 17-year-old Shari Smith and 9-year-old Debra May Helmick, whose slayings gripped Lexington and Richland counties in fear in 1985.

The investigation resulted in the arrest of Larry Gene Bell who was sentenced to death for the Smith murder, and who faces a second death-penalty trial for the Helmick slaying.

At the time of his death, Gasque was developing a new training program for security officers at the Academy.

Funeral services were held at Westminster Presbyterian Church with burial at Woodbridge Memorial Park.

Federal, state, city and county law enforcement officers who attended the funeral acted as honorary pallbearers.

Gray Court Chief Killed In Wreck

The Gray Court police chief and his 2-year-old grandson were killed Oct. 28 when the chief's patrol car swerved to avoid an automobile turning around in

the road and hit another vehicle head-on.

The patrol car, driven by Chief Gary Allen Thompson, caught fire after the collision, according Trooper J.C. Arrington of the state Highway Patrol. Passersby pulled Thompson, his son and his grandson free of the wreckage.

Thompson, 41, died in the accident. The child, Christopher Dean Thompson of Pelzer, was pronounced dead at Laurens District Hospital.

The chief's son, Richard Thompson, 25, of Pelzer, was critically injured, but survived.

Arrington said the patrol car was traveling north on S.C. 14 south of Gray Court, with headlights on and blue lights flashing, at an estimated speed of 80 miles an hour, when Thompson swerved to avoid a car that was making a U-turn into the northbound lane.

The trooper said Thompson apparently drove onto the shoulder of the road, but began skidding sideways when he tried to regain control of the car, which collided head-on with a southbound Cadillac.

The driver of the Cadillac was injured, as were two passengers. The driver of the car that was making the U-turn was 38-year-old Anna Marie Justice of Greenville. No charges were filed, pending an investigation.

Trooper Bunton Is Dead At 68

Theodore Lancewell Bunton Sr., of Burton, first Highway Patrolman to be stationed at Hilton Head Island, died Sept. 17. He was 68.

A trooper for 25 years, he previously served as chief of police at Ridgeland. He was a member of the S.C. Law Enforcement Officers Association and the S.C. Sheriff's Association.

Surviving are daughters, Mrs. Michael Voytek and Mrs. Ray Phillips of Beaufort; a son, Theodore L. Bunton Jr. of Ridgeland; stepdaughters, Mrs. Bertie Woods of Greenville and Mrs. Louise Baker, Mrs. Ellen Langford and Mrs. Margaret David of Ridgeland; stepsons, French and Gin Malphrus of Ridgeland; and several grandchildren, stepgrandchildren, great-grandchildren, and step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Port Royal Baptist Church with burial in Ridgeland Cemetery.

Former Union Sheriff J.H. Lamb is Dead

Former Union County Sheriff James Harold Lamb died Nov. 4 at 69.

Sheriff of Union County for 28 years, he was a former president of the S.C. Peace Officers Association and the S.C. Sheriffs Association. He received the Order of the Palmetto in 1974 from Gov. John C. West for his service in law enforcement.

Surviving are his wife, Frances Gibbs Lamb of Union; sisters, Carrie Lancaster and Ruth Gregory of Union and Hazel Bennett and Kathleen Pruitt of Spartanburg; and brothers, Wilson Lamb of Union and Ralph Lamb of Spartanburg.

Services were held at Grace United Methodist Church with burial in Rosemont Cemetery.

Former Dillon Officer Hayes Dies

Tinker Joe Hayes, retired Dillon city policeman and fireman, died Oct. 29. He was 66.

Surviving are his wife, Letha Turbeville Hayes of Dillon; a daughter, Joanne Moore of Dillon; sisters, Louis Simpson of Dillon and Lucille Smith of Maxton, N.C.; a brother, H.J. Hayes of Dillon; and grandchildren.

Services were held at Beulah Baptist Church with burial in Greenlawn Cemetery.

Retired Denmark Magistrate Dies

Retired Denmark Magistrate Walter E. Gibson died Sept. 10 at 69.

He had served as a magistrate since 1971 until his retirement this year as the county's chief magistrate.

Surviving are his wife, Hazel Inabinet Gibson of Denmark; a daughter, Anna B. McKenna of St. Cloud, Minn.; sisters, Helen Paulk of Barnwell, Emma Hutto of Denmark and Dorothy Fickling of Darlington; a brother, James H. Gibson of Norway; and grandchildren.

Services were held at the First Baptist Church of Denmark with burial in Denmark Cemetery.

Retired Williamsburg Magistrate Dies

Retired magistrate William R. Lifrage Sr. of Salters died Oct. 6 at 85.

He had served as a magistrate in Williamsburg County.

Surviving are his wife, Lila Griffin Lifrage of Salters; sons, William R. Lifrage Jr. of Salters and Eldridge G. Lifrage of Richmond, Va.; sisters, Ruth Shirer of Sumter, Dulcie Cooper of Salters and Lorena Knisley of Yorges Island; a brother, Robin Lifrage of Kingstree; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services were held at Williamsburg Funeral Home in Kingstree with burial in Union Presbyterian Church cemetery near Salters.

Ex-Sheriff Lowder Dies At Age 54

Former Lancaster County Sheriff Charles H. "Fuzz" Lowder of Darlington died Sept. 17 at 54.

He was a Highway Patrolman in Lancaster County for seven years prior to his election as county sheriff at the age of 29. He served as sheriff for 11 years and later was appointed to the state Commission on Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth C. Lowder of Darlington; daughters, Margaret E. "Beth" Lowder of Darlington and Sarah F. and Ann C. Lowder of Florence; a son, Charles H. "Chuck" Lowder III of Darlington; his mother, Ottie Lowder Cauthen of Darlington; a sister, Faye Lunn of Darlington; and a brother, J.L. Lowder of Darlington.

Services were held at the First Baptist Church of Darlington with burial in Swift Creek Cemetery.

Space problems prevented our acknowledgement of all recent law enforcement deaths in this edition. The obits will appear in our January edition. — THE EDITORS

Academy Curriculum Survey's Preliminary Results Studied

Preliminary results from a course evaluation of the Criminal Justice Academy's recently organized curriculum are now being reviewed, according to Academy Director John A. O'Leary.

O'Leary said the survey involved 505 graduates from 1985 academic year basic training classes. He said the task analysis was undertaken with the assistance of Dr. George Holmes, a researcher with the Medical University of South Carolina.

O'Leary said the academy and the College of Criminal Justice at the University of South Carolina conducted a task analysis in 1983 as the basis for curriculum revision in the Basic Law Enforcement Training program. As a result of the study, the academy's basic training was revised and restructured into an eight week program. The first class to enter the restructured program was in 1985.

O'Leary said that 505 survey forms were distributed and 241 valid responses were returned. He said that 104 items were surveyed dealing with course content, and the average score for all

items was a rating between "extremely useful" and "moderately useful."

O'Leary said uniform officers rated the academy's basic courses as more useful in their assignments than did non-uniform personnel. City and county officers also rated the basic courses as more useful than did the various state officers such as Capitol Complex, Mental Health, Ports Authority, and other officers.

Basic data gleaned from the survey included:

- 40 percent of the basic officers are between 21 and 26 years of age.
- 62 percent are married
- 50 percent are city police officers.
- 28 percent are county officers.
- 22 percent are state officers.
- 71 percent are working for their first law enforcement agency.
- 24 percent are employed by their second law enforcement agency.
- 5 percent have worked for three or more agencies.

O'Leary said a final report on the study is expected within the next few months.

Law Enforcement News Briefs

Richland Deputy Cleared Of Murder In Shooting

A Richland County deputy has been cleared of murder charges stemming from the October shooting of a recently released mental patient.

Circuit Judge John Hamilton Smith ordered a jury to find Deputy Sam Thompson not guilty after three witnesses testified he had no choice but to shoot the man, who had already killed one woman and injured another before officers arrived in response to an emergency call.

The dead man, Walter Brown, apparently fired at random when he shot and killed a Richland County woman as she sat on the front porch of her home. The woman's sister was wounded.

Witnesses testified that Thompson fired only when he saw that Brown had reloaded his pistol and was continuing to shoot. Thompson's partner, Deputy David Gardner, told the court that Brown had his pistol leveled at Thompson when Thompson shot first.

A SLED investigation showed that Thompson fired only to save himself and others from obvious danger.

The Richland County Grand Jury had indicted Thompson for murder -- standard procedure for law enforcement officers who kill citizens.

Clemson Parking Out

The state Highway Patrol is phasing out the use of troopers to park cars at Clemson University football games at taxpayers' expense.

Maj. J.H. Lanier of the Highway Patrol said 100 troopers have worked Clemson games in recent years -- a third of them to park cars and the rest to direct traffic through the campus, the city and key points along highways in and out of town.

But highway fatality records are up over last year, Lanier said, and those troopers are needed on the roads.

All Work And No Pay

Lee County has two new magistrates working for free because there is no money in the budget to pay them.

Will Alexander and Chris Capell said they accepted the part-time appointments from Sen. John Land, D-Clarendon, hoping the pay problem could be worked out.

But county officials said the money's not available, and if the magistrates get paid, Land will have to do it.

Shooting Said Justified

A Chester County review panel has ruled that a 20-year sheriff's department veteran was justified in shooting a suspect during an arrest for breach of the peace.

Lt. Bill Miles shot the suspect in the leg after the man threw bricks at three officers who tried to take him into custody. The officers were not hurt, but the bricks struck their cars.

The review panel said the shooting was "necessary and justified."

Solicitor Liked Film

Not everyone involved has chimed in on the reviews, but 15th Circuit Solicitor Jim Dunn liked almost

everything about "Vengeance: The Story of Tony Cimo," a made-for-TV movie based on a murder for hire on South Carolina's Death Row.

The movie aired in November, and Dunn -- the prosecutor involved in the trial of Murrells Inlet brick layer Tony Cimo -- said it was accurate in most respects. One deviation was the identity of the killer, who in real life was mass murderer Donald "Pee Wee" Gaskins, hired by Cimo in 1982 to avenge his parents' deaths at the hands of Rudolph Tyner.

Gaskins rigged a homemade bomb and blasted Tyner to death in his cell. He was sentenced to Death Row for the murder, and Cimo -- now on parole -- was sentenced to eight years.

Dunn said his objection to the movie was its portrayal of him by veteran actor William Conrad, who's rotund, and in the film wore pastel suits and bow ties. Dunn is slim and wears tailored suits.

Scholar-Cops Lauded

Police departments are attracting well-educated people to enforce the law, but not without some sacrifices, Charleston Police Chief Reuben M. Greenberg told the Southeastern Regional Association of Teacher Educators at a recent convention.

Charleston pays officers according to their level of college and postgraduate education, he said, and officers taking courses must put them first when working schedules conflict.

Greenberg said 17 years ago, the 150-man force had about 40 officers who couldn't read, but now the force is up to 236 -- all literate, and including 91 college graduates. He said that's a national trend.

The educators' group gave Greenberg a plaque to honor his commitment to officer education.

Magistrate Guilty

A former Aiken County magistrate has pleaded guilty to perjury in connection with a federal investigation into bid-rigging and bribery at the Savannah River Plant.

Wallace Cassels of Jackson said he lied to a federal grand jury investigating allegations of wrong-doing at the nuclear materials plant. He said he did it to help one of the suspects, a former purchasing agent.

Cassels, who entered his guilty plea in late October, was to be sentenced after completion of a standard probation report -- a process that usually takes 30 to 45 days.

No Sheriff In Dillon?

Dillon County may be without a sheriff and a probate judge unless a law passed this year by the General Assembly can be clarified.

The new law doesn't allow the governor to appoint an interim sheriff if more than a year remains on the term of office. That means Gov. Dick Riley can't name a replacement for Sheriff Greg Rogers, who submitted his resignation in November after his election to probate judge.

Legally, Rogers is still sheriff until a successor is named, but that presents another problem -- whether he can be sworn in as probate judge -- because he can't hold two offices at once.

Dillon County is waiting for an attorney general's opinion to sort out the tangled legal questions involved, including who acts as sheriff if Rogers is allowed to take his probate oath of office.

Magistrate Charged

Willie Seal Adams, a suspended Berkeley County magistrate, has been charged with threatening a potential state's witness and conspiring to have him killed.

The witness, Josef Kocsis is a co-defendant with Adams in an arson case, stemming from an August fire at Kocsis' home.

Chief Justice Julius B. "Bubba" Ness suspended Adams from his magisterial duties after the arson conspiracy charge was filed.

Extortion Alleged

A Timmonsville police officer has been charged with two counts each of extortion and misconduct in public office after a SLED investigation into reports that he took money from citizens "for his troubles."

In one incident, SLED said Patrolman Roosevelt LeFlores charged a woman \$20 after the domestic dispute that led to her arrest was resolved and the charges dropped.

In another incident, SLED said LeFlores took \$78 and a gun from an unlicensed motorist he'd stopped, and kept both the money and the weapon.

Police officers in South Carolina are not allowed to levy fines.

LeFlores was fired from the Timmonsville Police Department after the charges were filed. He already faced an embezzlement and misconduct in office charge, which had led to his suspension.

Task Forces Probe 'Critical' State Areas

Republican Governor-Elect Carroll A. Campbell Jr. has named transition task forces to examine "critical areas of state government" between now and his inauguration in January.

The Task Force on Criminal Justice, one of eight Campbell established soon after his November election, is headed by former state Rep. Tim Brett of Greenville. Brett was political director of Campbell's gubernatorial campaign.

Another law-enforcement-related task force will focus on drug abuse and drug education. It is headed by Haidee Clark, a former Campbell congressional assistant.

Campbell hasn't said what he plans to do about other state agency heads in whose tenure he has some say-so, but he told the press he'll retain J.P. Strom as chief of the State Law Enforcement Division if Strom wants to stay.

Inmate Escapes, Is Killed; Officer Placed On Leave

A Mount Pleasant policeman was placed on administrative leave in mid-November after an inmate died when he escaped from the officer's custody, dove into traffic, and was hit by a car.

An internal investigation was initiated to determine where whether Patrolman Jim Ettari followed proper procedures while taking Willie Lee Ancrum to an identification trailer next to the Charleston County Jail.

Ancrum, who had previously escaped from custody in Summerville, was in jail for writing bad checks and resisting arrest.

Co-Op Effort Collars Escapee

Michael Bernard King walked out of the Hampton County Jail at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 10, but his freedom was short lived.

King, 27, was captured near Savannah at 4:30 a.m. Nov. 11, after a high-speed chase during which he fired shots at pursuing officers. He was taken by officers of the Pooler, Ga., police department after he lost control of a pickup truck at the U.S. 80 exit off Interstate 95.

Pooler Police Chief Clarence E. Chan said no one was injured in the wreck, but that King had apparently cut himself on glass inside the truck.

According to Benita Heyward, Hampton County chief jailer, King "just took off" during an exercise period. She said no one was injured in the escape.

Mrs. Heyward said that at approximately 3:15 a.m., the escapee stole a pickup from in front of a Hampton convenience store. The owner of the truck had apparently gone into the store for coffee.

Hardeeville officers later spotted the truck on Interstate 95 and chased King into Georgia. "He was more or less surrounded," Chief Chan said. "There weren't many places he could go."

King had been sentenced to 10 years for armed robbery in Hampton, and he was awaiting trial on another armed robbery charge.

In Chatham County, Ga., he is charged with bringing stolen property into the state and possession of a firearm by a felon.

At least four law enforcement agencies were involved in the chase.

O'Leary Hosts Radio Program

Academy Director John A. O'Leary is presently hosting a monthly radio program on Columbia's Education Radio Station. The program began last month.

The broadcast idea was developed and announced by WLTR-FM Station Manager Diane Owenby, following a meeting at the Academy in September.

The program will air on WLTR-FM at 91.3 on the dial. Each show will last approximately five minutes and will air monthly, with the possibility of additional shows being developed at a later date, Mrs. Owenby said.

O'Leary said the topics for the programs will deal with a variety of criminal justice issues.

Changes, Awards, Honors

Lancaster Officer New Clover Chief of Police

John Stephen Willis, a former lieutenant with the Lancaster Police Department, has assumed duties as the new Chief of Police for the town of Clover.

Willis, 30, served the Lancaster department for over eight years. He was a patrolman, patrol corporal, community relations corporal, and patrol sergeant. When appointed to the Clover force, he was serving Lancaster as lieutenant in charge of training, crime prevention, and community relations.

As training officer, he developed a records system which allowed the department to identify areas in which individual officers, as well as the department as a whole, were in need of training. He also instituted a pre-service training program which provides for 10 weeks of training—two in the classroom and eight in the field—before an officer is allowed to perform as a solo officer.

He developed several crime prevention and community relations programs, and also served as assistant support services commander.

Willis is a graduate of The Citadel in political science. He is presently working on his master's degree in the College of Criminal Justice at the University of South Carolina. He has taken numerous training courses at the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy.

Chief Willis is married to the former Lisa B. Parks. They have two children, Stephen Perry and Ashley Patricia.

In Lancaster, he was a member of the Board of Deacons of First Lancaster Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church and also of Hart Masonic Lodge.

He is a member of the S.C. Law Enforcement Officers Association and the State Association of Crime Prevention Officers.

Patrolman Honored

Folly Beach Public Safety Patrolman Thomas M. Marshall has been honored for his part in the rescue of a drowning woman in the surf July 18.

The Folly Beach City Council formally thanked Marshall for his heroism and presented him with a plaque citing him for bravery.

The officer was sunning himself on his day off, when he heard screams from offshore. He sighted "someone floundering around" about 200 yards out. Fighting a powerful incoming tide, Marshall swam to the woman and began to pull her ashore when a strong undertow pulled them both under.

"It pulled me down enough that I couldn't see any light," he said. "I didn't know if I would get her or myself out of there. I fought to get us back to the surface."

Marshall made it to the surface and began to struggle to get the woman ashore. A man, still unidentified, came to Marshall's aid, and together they got the woman in.

"I was glad to see him come to help," the officer said. "I swallowed a lot of water and was choking. After the rescue, I turned around to tell him thanks—and he was gone."

Powell Promoted

C. Mervin Powell, a 12-year veteran of the North Charleston Police Department, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant by Chief J. A. Cannon Jr.

A sergeant with the department since 1978, Powell was chosen from a field of 15 candidates. His new duties include acting as a support lieutenant in the uniform division by overseeing the traffic division and the city's officers assigned to patrol the Charleston International Airport.

While at the department, Powell has worked as a juvenile investigator, detective sergeant, detective sergeant supervisor, and a uniform division sergeant.

Officers Move Up

In response to Spartanburg City Council's recent commitment to promoting minority hiring and promotion within the city's Public Safety Department, Public Safety Director W. C. Bain has announced the promotions of two black officers.

Pat Thompson, formerly a sergeant, has been promoted to lieutenant, Bain said. She will be in charge of the records, jail, community relations, and crime prevention divisions, he said.

Another black officer, Randy Hardy, a public safety officer for five years, was promoted to sergeant with responsibilities in the community relations and crime prevention divisions.

Bain said the promotions of Thompson and Hardy will benefit both the public and his department.

Position Changed

Greenville County Sheriff Johnny Mack Brown has announced that Lt. David Enter has been placed in the position of interim Public Affairs Officer for the department.

Lt. Enter replaces Lt. A. Tommy Smith.

Sumner New Chief

William D. Sumner, formerly commander of the Detective Division of the Lancaster Police Department, is now the city's chief of police.

Sumner, 44, was selected for the chiefship from among 56 applicants considered by Lancaster City Council.

In his new position, Sumner serves as administrator for both the police and fire departments. He joined the Lancaster Police Department in 1972.

He replaces William "Jack Sidoran, who resigned to become police chief in Charleston County.

Ross Resigns

Saluda County Sheriff William E. Ross has submitted his resignation to Gov. Dick Riley in order to resolve a dispute concerning the length of his appointment.

Ross, who was named to the post by the Governor in June upon the resignation of former sheriff George C. Booth, said he was resigning so that a special election can be held to name Booth's successor.

At issue is a state law passed by the Legislature in April that takes away the Governor's power to appoint a county sheriff if more than one year remains in his term. Booth's term was not to expire until 1988.

Ross said he will continue to serve as sheriff until the election is held, and he will be a candidate in the contest.

He had been Booth's chief deputy before his appointment by the Governor.

McCrary Honored

Ed M. McCrary of Winnsboro, a deputy warden at Kirkland Correctional Institution, has been awarded the Bill Butler Memorial Award for excellence in the correctional field.

McCrary was nominated by the Kirkland Jaycees and by S.C. Jaycees President Tom Rapp. He was recognized at the U. S. Jaycees Annual Meeting in Milwaukee, Wis.

The award is named for Bill Butler, a Jaycees president of an institutional chapter who was killed trying to quell a riot.

McCrary is a graduate of the University of South Carolina. He has done graduate work at USC and has earned an associate degree in police and corrections administration from Palmer College.

Cavanagh Honored

A Columbia man has been named Correctional Officer of the Year by the S.C. Department of Corrections.

Joseph M. Cavanagh, 27, a correctional officer at the Watkins Pre-Release Center in Columbia, was presented the Capt. Olin B. Sanders award by the Alston Wilkes Society Dec. 4.

The award is named for the chief of security at the S.C. Penitentiary, who was killed during an attempted escape in 1937.

Cavanagh is attending the University of South Carolina is is majoring in criminal justice. He is a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society. He is an expert marksman, a weight lifter and has a black belt in karate.

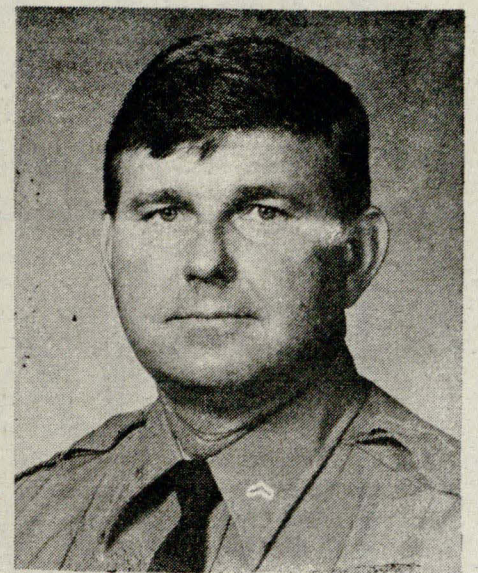
Cavanagh began his career with the Department of Corrections in 1982. He is a graduate of the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy's Basic Officers' Course and the American Correctional Association's supervisors' course.

Two Investigations Probe Officer's Shots

Independent investigations by SLED and the FBI are under way in the shooting death of a North Charleston woman after she stabbed a local policeman with a barbecue fork.

Officer John Craddock was stabbed with the fork as he attempted to break up a domestic dispute. A fellow officer, Timothy Cummings, shot and killed Craddock's assailant, Hazel Lee Tate. The officer was injured, but not seriously.

Witnesses said neighbors cheered members of the Tate family in the confrontation with police.



CPL. BOBBY RAY HOGAN of Easley is the state's Wildlife Conservation Office of the Year for 1986. He was chosen from among South Carolina's 200 wildlife conservation officers to receive the honor, the highest given by the state Wildlife and Marine Resources Department to a law enforcement officer. The agency's director, W.K. Chastain, said Hogan was chosen for his "leadership and initiative in making cases for night deer hunting and illegal commercial fishing." (Photo by Ted Borg, courtesy of the S.C. Wildlife and Marine Resources Department.)

Man Who Beat Deputy Given 8-Year Term

A man who beat up a Lexington County deputy and then drove the officer's car into a ravine was sentenced to eight years for resisting arrest.

Circuit Judge Julius Baggett sentenced Tommy Dent, 29, of Elgin to an additional three years for violating probation on another charge.

The incident occurred while Dent was on probation from an eight-year prison sentence for housebreaking and grand larceny. He had previously been convicted on five separate assault charges, but served only a month of his eight-year sentence before he was released.

In the Lexington County incident last June, Deputy Robert Bullock was attacked and beaten after stopping a speeding car.

Dent pleaded guilty in September.

Woman Killed In Crash With Patrol Cruiser

An Orangeburg woman died Nov. 28 when the car in which she was riding collided with a state Highway Patrol cruiser north of Holly Hill.

Hattie Carr, 67, was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident at S.C. 15 and Secondary Road 314.

Witnesses said an automobile driven by Eugene Zeigler of Holly Hill turned into the path of the cruiser, which was operated by Sgt. L.M. Ackerman of Holly Hill.

Ackerman was treated for bruises and cuts and released from Orangeburg Regional Hospital. Zeigler was hospitalized.

No charges were filed, pending an investigation.

Stiff Overpass Penalties Sought

Law enforcement officers around the state are seeking tougher penalties for people who throw objects from highway overpasses.

The push for stiffer punishment began in early November after a 2-year-old Charleston boy was killed when a 190-pound chunk of granite was dropped from an overpass onto his family's car.

The child, William Stapleton Jr., was asleep on the front seat of the car when the boulder struck his infant safety seat. His parents and sister were injured, but not seriously.

The incident occurred on I-26 in

in Lexington County. One teenager was charged with murder in connection with the incident, and authorities initiated proceedings to file similar charges against the other youth involved -- a juvenile whom they hope to try as an adult.

Lexington County Sheriff James R. Metts said the child's death underscored the need for legal retributions against pranksters who throw objects from overpasses. That county alone had 15 such reports from affected motorists in 1985, and 13 similar incidents have occurred so far this year.

State law says tampering with roads and highways is a misdemeanor that carries a maximum penalty of 30 days in jail or a \$100 fine.

Metts' call for tougher penalties was joined in by the S.C. Sheriffs' Association, the S.C. Law Enforcement Officers Association, the Highway Patrol and the state Trucking Association.

They want overpass cases declared felonies and moved out of magistrates' court into circuit court. They also want separate criminal offenses created for causing property damage or personal injury, and for causing deaths by such actions.

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